

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 01685 100839Z
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 /017 W
-----100842Z 101373 /17

O 100734Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2047

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 1685

USIA FOR IEU: SHIRLEY; STATE FOR CU/EE RICHMOND AND CU/ARTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, RO
SUBJECT: SPECIAL CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS FOR ROMANIA

REF: SHIRLEY/GARNETT TELECON, MARCH 7.

1. EMBASSY APPROACHED BOTH ARIA AND THE COUNCIL FOR CULTURE AND SOCIALIST EDUCATION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SPECIAL SMALL AMERICAN CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS TO PERFORM IN DAMAGED AREAS TO HELP BOOST THE MORALE OF THE POPULACE. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS WERE APPRECIATIVE OF THE OFFER BUT GAVE NEGATIVE RESPONSES BECAUSE THEY FELT THAT SUCH PRESENTATIONS WERE PREMATURE AND MIGHT BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY ROMANIANS.

2. ARIA SUGGESTED THAT INSTEAD A MAJOR U.S. CULTURAL ATTRACTION MIGHT BE PRESENTED LATER TO RAISE MONEY FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS.

E. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SMALL AMERICAN CULTURAL GROUPS PERFORMING IN THE DAMAGED AREAS WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME, BUT THANKS IEU FOR THE OFFER. WE DO FEEL THAT SMALL ROCK, ROCK/JAZZ GROUPS AND FOLKSINGERS COULD BE PROGRAMMED AT THE AMERICAN LIBRARY BEGINNING IN
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APRIL, IF WE ARE ABLE TO OPEN BY THAT TIME. SUCH GROUPS SHOULD BE OF HIGH-QUALITY AND WE WOULD ALSO ATTEMPT TO PLACE THEM IN THE PROVINCES. AS TO ARIA'S SUGGESTION ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A MAJOR AMERICAN ATTRACTION BEING PRESENTED LATER AS A BENEFIT FOR THE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS, WE BELIEVE THIS SUGGESTION HAS MERIT AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY BOTH THE DEPARTMENT AND THE AGENCY. IT WOULD

HAVE TO BE A MAJOR ATTRACTION (HARRY BELAFONTE, PITTSBURG SYMPHONY, ALVIN AILEY, "EARTH, WIND AND FIRE", "OHIO PLAYERS", AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE, ETC), AND WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO GIVE 2-3 PERFORMANCES IN ORDER TO RAISE ENOUGH MONEY.

4. APPRECIATE YOUR REACTION TO THESE PROPOSALS.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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